Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawings were objected to since they did not note the location of "DMS 100". This reference has been added to the drawings in Figs. 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D, and substitute drawings are attached hereto. The drawings are labeled with the appropriate REPLACEMENT SHEET in the top margin.

REMARKS

This is responsive to the office action dated February 20, 2008. A response is due on May 20, 2008 without an extension of time.

Claims 1, 3-16, 18-19, 22-30, 32-34, 36-41, 43-45 and 47-56 are now pending in this application. Claims 1,3-16, 18-19, 22-27, 32, 33, 40, 47, and 56 are currently amended.

The drawings were objected to since they did not note the location of "DMS 100". The reference has been put into the drawings in Figs. 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D, and substitute drawings are attached hereto.

Claims 33 and 56 were objected to because of certain informalities. These have been corrected.

Claims 1, 2-16, 18-19, 22-30 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The presently amended claims, especially independent claims 1, 27 and 32, are believe to now comply with §101 since the presently amended claims contain the necessary physical articles or objects (e.g., "a digital computer system . . ." or "means for creating and editing an electronic document") to constitute and machine or manufacture.

Claims 1, 3-19, 22-34, 36-41, and 43-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable under Kim et al (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0120729) in view of Ferguson et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,820,094) and Grefenstette (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0205448).

The present invention is directed to a data-management system and device to be provided to a digital computer terminal for generating a link in real time between an electronic document opened in a computer application and a target document. The digital computer terminal includes a computer readable memory and a data-capture device, while the data-management system includes data-capture logic and device for controlling capture of electronic data by the data-capture device, target-document logic for generating the target document from the electronic data, which represents an information object captured by a data-capture device, and link-generating logic for substantially simultaneously storing the target document in the computer readable memory and generating the link to the target document in the electronic document in real time. The present invention also provides a data-management system for generating a plurality of links to target documents in an electronic document.

The present invention is different in that a link is not limited to HTML and can include C,

Basic, Java, Assembler, and the like. The present invention does not require an HTTP server, and can operate self-contained on a stand-alone PC (no network required), or over a network of any type – TCP/IP, IPX/SPX, Banyan's Vines, AppleTalk, DLC, etc. The present invention creates links in a spreadsheet, word processing document, database, or flowchart and can create multiple links in the same process required to create one link. The present invention also creates a link to any type of electronic document, regardless of what application created the document, and regardless of what application is required to view the document. Thus, the present invention goes beyond simple document management applications, since its main purpose is preparing documents with supporting links to be transmitted electronically while maintaining the operability of the links.

The Examiner has correctly noted that Kim et al does not explicitly teach data management logic to automatically update a path of a link. The Examiner is incorrect in that Ferguson suggests this limitation. The update that Ferguson describes is between the STG (attribute file) and the Smart folder, not between the links' target file and the source document. Smart folders are described as folders associated with certain categories or criteria. Source documents are associated with smart folders based on attributes found in their associated STG files.

For example, a smart folder could be created with the category "Green". Therefore, all STG files with a Color attribute of Green would be associated with the Green smart folder. When a STG file's color attribute is changed from Green to Red the link between the STG file and the Green smart folder would be eliminated. From this, how does Ferguson teach us how to update the underlying path to a link? Ferguson never describes updating link paths but instead exhaustively describes categories and categorization of documents – see Column 6, Lines 65- end, Column 7, Lines 1 – 45. An STG file is not a link to a specific electronic document; instead it is a file that contains many attributes that describe a corresponding electronic document.

As the Examiner has noted Ferguson in column 3 lines 59-65 and column 7 lines 47-57 teaches updating a file. As stated in Ferguson "an existing STG file may be updated if the corresponding document is modified". But it is also noted in the section quoted by the Examiner in column 7 that Ferguson teaches that "if a document is modified such as the modification causes the document to no longer meet the category criteria of a particular smart folder, the link between the documents STG and

the smart folder may be eliminated." This does not teach updating the link and Ferguson does not teach the inclusion of link editing logic for such a purpose.

Grefenstette teaches a meta-document management system with document identifiers in which a personality that identifies enrichment themes of a document is associated with a reading or mobile computing device. It is a teaching that is similar to Ferguson and adds nothing to the combination of the Kim and Ferguson references. The updating of link or hyperlink paths is never mentioned in Grefenstette. They only mention of updating the source document from the target documents is in paragraph [0295] in which Grefenstette describes a meta container that is created by specifying source documents from which information is pulled and inserted into the meta document. The "updating" that is mentioned is not the updating of link paths to these source documents but the polling of those source documents for new information that is then re-inserted into the meta document. Grefenstette does not teach updating the link and does not teach the inclusion of link editing logic for such a purpose.

The present claim amendments are for the purpose of clarifying the Section 101 issues raised by the Examiner. Therefore, all of these issues have been considered by the Examiner before and no new issues are presented by this amendment. The Examiner has included a new reference which does not add any teachings not already presented and none of which anticipate or obviate the presently claimed invention.

Since neither Ferguson nor Kim or any combination thereof suggest updating the link as is claimed in applicants' currently amended claims, applicants' claims should be considered patentable. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims pending in the application, namely Claims 1, 3-16, 18-19, 22-30, 32-34, 36-41, 43-45 and 47-56 is respectively requested.

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Response dated May 13, 2008
Reply to Office Action of February 20, 2008

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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